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WILMINGTON MAN'S \$1 MILLION LOTTERY WINNINGS TO HELP FAMILY AND FRIENDS

**-Greensboro and Raleigh Players Split \$254,442 "Carolina Cash 5" Top Prize-
-Creedmoor Man Wins \$100,000 with Holiday Scratch-off Ticket-**

RALEIGH-Derl Demello of **Wilmington** had his friends and family in mind when he came to the North Carolina Education Lottery (NCEL) headquarters this morning. Upon claiming the \$1 million top prize on his "\$130 Million Blockbuster" ticket, he said "The first check helps them; the next check will be mine."

Demello is the sixth player to claim the \$1 million prize on this game. The \$1 million prize is paid out as an annuity—\$50,000 per year for 20 years. He has already received his first check for \$50,000 (less Federal and State withholdings).

He bought his ticket at Greenfield Food Store on Greenfield Street in Wilmington, and also has submitted an entry into the next preliminary drawing where he hopes to have a chance to be selected as a finalist for a chance to win \$50,000 a year* "for life" with a minimum of 20 years guaranteed. The entry deadline for the second of five preliminary drawings is Dec. 23. The second drawing will be held Dec. 30. For more details on the \$130 Million Blockbuster game and the drawings visit nc-educationlottery.org for details. In addition to the drawings, there are still four of the \$1 million prizes available on the ticket, as well as tens of thousands of other prizes in the game.

"Carolina Cash 5" players had a big weekend. On Friday, Dec. 5, two tickets matched all five numbers drawn to split the \$254,442 top prize.

William Montague of **Greensboro** is one of the lucky winners. He says he thought he was in a dream when the cashier at Lee Street Quick Stop in Greensboro told him that his ticket was worth \$127,221. He plans to use his winnings to take a trip to Jamaica and do some home improvements.

Willie Adams of **Raleigh** is the second winner whose Dec. 5 "Carolina Cash 5" ticket matched all five numbers drawn. He purchased his winning ticket at the Food Lion #1079 on Louisburg Road in **Raleigh**. Adams says he will use his winnings for an already planned trip to the Caribbean. He added that his wife wants a new refrigerator, so he'll buy her a new one with his prize money.

The top prize for "Carolina Cash 5" was hit again the next day. One ticket for the Dec. 6 drawing matched all five numbers drawn to win the \$50,000 top prize. This ticket was sold at Food Lion #971 on North Wendover Road in **Charlotte**. It has yet to be claimed.

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For John Winston of **Creedmoor**, the decision to buy a “Jingle Big Ol’ Bucks” ticket for the first time paid off. He bought one ticket at the Creedmoor Food Store on North Durham Avenue in Creedmoor and took the ticket home to scratch off later. When it revealed the top prize, he put the ticket in his wife’s hand and said “How does it feel to hold \$100,000?” Winston plans to spend some of the money on family to make sure they have an extra nice Christmas.

In Powerball news, four tickets matched four out of five white balls plus the Powerball in the Saturday, Dec. 6 drawing. One of these tickets was Power Played. Since the Power Play multiplier for the drawing was five, the normal \$10,000 payout was increased to \$50,000. This ticket was sold at Wills III on Dallas High Shoals Highway in **Dallas**.

The other three tickets that matched four out of five white balls plus the Powerball were not Power Played and are worth \$10,000 each. These tickets were sold at A & W Grocery & Grill Inc. on East Tally Ho Road in **Stem**, Food Lion #345 on West Main Street in **Locust**, and Kashish Food Mart on Battleground Avenue in **Greensboro**.

A total of 36,179 North Carolina Powerball players won prizes in the Saturday, Dec. 6 Powerball drawing, ranging from \$50,000 down to \$3 for a total payout in prizes worth \$453,736. No one matched all five white balls plus the Powerball to win the jackpot, so the jackpot for the Wednesday, Dec. 10 Powerball drawing is an estimated \$35 million.

The North Carolina Education Lottery (NCEL) has paid out more than \$5.2 million total in instant scratch-off ticket prizes since Thursday, Dec. 4. Also since Thursday, “Carolina Cash 5” players have won more than \$449,000 and “Carolina Pick 3” players have won nearly \$882,000 in prizes.

Winners in the Dec. 5 “Carolina Cash 5” drawing:

<u>Winner</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Amount Won</u>	<u>Store Where Ticket Was Purchased</u>
William Montague	Greensboro	\$127,221	Lee Street Quick Stop 3218 E. Lee St., Greensboro
Willie Adams	Raleigh	\$127,221	Food Lion #1079 5621-113 Louisburg Rd., Raleigh

Winners in the Dec. 6 “Carolina Cash 5” drawing:

<u>Winner</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Amount Won</u>	<u>Store Where Ticket Was Purchased</u>
Unknown		\$50,000	Food Lion #971 931 N. Wendover Rd., Charlotte

Winners in the Dec. 6 Powerball drawing:

<u>Winner</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Amount Won</u>	<u>Store Where Ticket Was Purchased</u>
Unknown		\$50,000	Wills III 3874 Dallas High Shoals Hwy., Dallas
Unknown		\$10,000	A & W Grocery & Grill Inc. 102 East Tally Ho Rd., Stem
Unknown		\$10,000	Food Lion #345 1004 W. Main St., Locust
Unknown		\$10,000	Kashish Food Mart 2321 Battleground Ave., Greensboro

(more)

Winners in the Dec. 3 Powerball drawing:

<u>Winner</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Amount Won</u>	<u>Store Where Ticket Was Purchased</u>
William Casola	Apex	\$10,000	Lowes Foods 5400 Apex Peakway, Apex

Instant scratch-off ticket top tier prize winners:

<u>Winner</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Amount Won</u>	<u>Game Played</u>
Linda Haywood	Charlotte	\$10,000	"\$130 Million Blockbuster"
Keisha Phifer	Charlotte	\$10,000	"Super Gold"
Charles Bowyer	Cherryville	\$5,000	"\$130 Million Blockbuster"
Charles Bradley	Forest City	\$5,000	"\$130 Million Blockbuster"
James Israel	Battleboro	\$5,000	"Jingle Big Ol' Bucks"
Gerald McNeill	Raleigh	\$5,000	"\$130 Million Blockbuster"
Carlos Sanders	Lexington	\$5,000	"\$130 Million Blockbuster"
Ray Whaley Jr.	Clemmons	\$5,000	"\$130 Million Blockbuster"

"Carolina Cash 5" Top Prize Winners Tally

<u>Prize</u>	<u># of winners</u>
\$50,000 to \$856,998	164

Powerball Winners Tally

<u>Prize</u>	<u># of winners</u>
\$2 Million - \$200,000	131
\$100,000 - \$10,000	730

(The Powerball numbers above are since May 31, 2006,
but do not include unclaimed prizes.)

* "For Life" payments only payable to a natural person. Legal entities such as Corporations, partnerships, trusts, estates will only be eligible to claim the 20 year guaranteed portion of the prize.

100% of the North Carolina Education Lottery net proceeds are used for pre-kindergarten programs for at risk youth, reduction of class size in early grades, school construction and need-based college scholarships.